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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/067,304

02/07/2002

Katsushi Fujii

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22850

7590

06/28/2006

OBLON, SPIVAK, MCCLELLAND, MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.
1940 DUKE STREET
ALEXANDRIA, VA 22314

EXAMINER

HUYNH, BA

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2179

DATE MAILED: 06/28/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/067,304	Applicant(s) FUJII ET AL.	
	Examiner Ba Huynh	Art Unit 2179	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 05 June 2006.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-5 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-5 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1-5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over US patent application publication 2002/0071,540 (Dworkin), in view of US patent 6,363,352 (Dailey et al).

- As for claims 1, 3-5: Dworkin teaches a computer implemented system and corresponding method connected to a network server (figure 2) for managing a first service of distributing contents and a second service of providing a group chat space, in real-time according to a reservation made in advance by the first terminal, and, to a plurality of second terminals for requesting the use of first service and the use of a second service (0002-0008, 0015-0019), comprising the means/steps for:
 - acquiring means configured to acquire reservation information, sent by the first terminal, to the information processing apparatus from a reservation database in order to provide the first service to the second terminal (0015, 0025),
 - generating means configured to generate the chat space corresponding to the reservation at a predetermined time designated by the reservation (0019-0021, 0025-0028)

providing means for providing the chat space (0004, 0006, 0019, 0021, 0022) to the first and second terminals coincident with the first service (0004, 0019, 0021), the second terminal accessing the chat space and first service in accordance with authentication data (0024, 0025), 0028.

Dworkin discloses that chat room password is required for accessing the chat space (0026). Conference participants are notified and connected to scheduled conference at start time (0027). Streaming services, including whiteboarding and application sharing, are available for live broadcast of conferences (0027). Thus it appears that conference content is provided to the server such that whiteboarding and application sharing is available at the time of the conference. Even if it is not, implementation of providing conference content to the server is disclosed by Dailey et al (abstract, 3:61-4:3). It would have been obvious to one of skill in the art, at the time the invention was made, to combine Dailey's teaching of providing conference content to the server to Dworkin. Motivation of the combining is for the advantage of automating content distribution as suggested by Dailey (2:65-3:3). It further appears that authentication data ("chat room password") is included in the notification in order for the notified participant to be connected to the conference ("Designated participants are notified by the ASP, and connected to scheduled conferences at start time"). Even if it is not, sending notification with authentication data by the server to conferee is well known in the art and is disclosed by Dailey's (Dailey's 10:10-18. See also US 2001/0023430, par 0006-0007 and US 2006/0090013, par 0108). It would

have been obvious to one of skill in the art, at the time the invention was made, to combine the Dailey's teaching of including authentication data in the meeting request to Dworkin. Motivation of the combining is for real time conferencing as suggested by Dailey. Per Dailey, the chat space is generated at "predetermined time" prior to a distribution start time (Dailey's 5:27-30.

- As for claim 2: Dworkin fails to clearly teach deleting the chat space at pre-determined time after distribution end time. However Official notice is taken that implementation of deleting the chat space at pre-determined time after distribution end time would have been obvious to one of skill in the art at the time the invention was made. Motivation of the implementation is for accounting and schedule management purposes.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

REMARKS:

In response to the applicant's argument that Dworkin's server can not access group contents for distribution since Dworkin's system is implemented with third party instant messaging utilities, the argument is not persuasive since Dworkin does teach instant message utility available at the server.

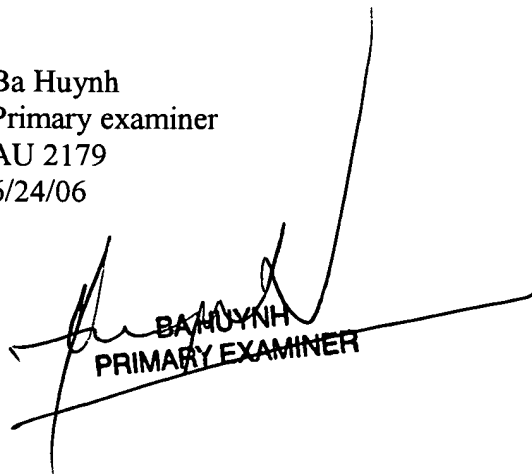
Art Unit: 2179

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Ba Huynh whose telephone number is (571) 272-4138. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon - Fri.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Weilun Lo can be reached on (571) 272-4847. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Ba Huynh
Primary examiner
AU 2179
6/24/06



BA HUYNH
PRIMARY EXAMINER